

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 ARAE-00 OIC-04 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CPR-02 PM-07 SAM-01 NSC-07 OPR-02

PA-04 RSC-01 SS-20 SY-04 PRS-01 A-01 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 SP-03 L-03 H-03 DODE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-19 DRC-01

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O R 212216Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7391

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 2610

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, HO

SUBJECT: BATRES LEAVES FOR OAS

1. FONMIN BATRES LEFT FOR WASHINGTON TODAY TO APPEAR BEFORE OAS ON JUNE 24. HE ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE ON JUNE 20 WHICH READS PARTIALLY AS FOLLOWS:

2. "THE GOH IS CONFIDENT THAT THE INTERCHANGES PRODUCED BY THIS TRIP WILL BE USEFUL FOR ADVANCING THE PROCESS OF PACIFICATION AND NORMALIZATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA... ON THIS OCCASION THE GOH REITERATES ITS PEACEFUL PURPOSES AND ITS ABSOLUTE ADHESION TO THE MEANS OF SOLVING CONFLICTS SET FORTH IN INTERNATIONAL LAW AND ESPECIALLY IN THE INTERAMERICAN SYSTEM. IT ALSO REITERATES ITS READINESS TO ATTEND ALL POSSIBLE FORUMS WHICH CONSTRUCTIVELY COULD LEAD TO A TOTAL, SIMULTANEOUS AND DEFINITIVE SOLUTION OF ALL THE PROBLEMS PENDING BETWEEN HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR."

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3. BATRES REFUSED TO GIVE ANY COMMENT TO NEWSMEN BEYOND THE COMMUNIQUE. THE FIRST NEWS STORIES (TIEMPO) HAVE TENDED TO TREAT THE FORTHCOMING TALKS AS A NEW ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

4. IN DISCUSSING MATTERS WITH CHARGE ON JUNE 20, BATRES SAID HE OBVIOUSLY WOULD BE GLAD TO REOPEN TALKS WITH SALVADOR, BUT HE WAS NOT SURE THE WASHINGTON MEETING WOULD LEAD TO THIS. HE NOTED THAT OVER THREE WEEKS HAD PASSED SINCE BORGONOVO HAD SUGGESTED NEW INFORMAL AND SECRET MEETINGS, BUT THAT BORGONOVO HAD NOT CALLED BACK TO CONFIRM HIS PROPOSAL.

5. HE ASKED IF USG WAS THINKING OF TAKING ANY NEW INITIATIVE ON CASE. CHARGE SAID WE HAD FREQUENTLY STUDIED WHAT WE COULD DO TO BE HELPFUL, BUT GENERALLY RETURNED TO SAME CONCLUSION THAT IN THESE STAGES ABOUT ALL WE COULD CONTRIBUTE WAS OUR ACTIVITY ON THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN, AND BILATERALLY SERVING AS A POSSIBLE COMMUNICATIONS CHANNEL TO ENCOURAGE MAINTAINING THE DIALOGUE. CHARGE URGED BATRES TO BE EMINENTLY REASONABLE IN WASHINGTON, AND TO KEEP TRYING TO GET THE COMMUNICATIONS GOING AGAIN.

6. BATRES EXPRESSED DISCOURAGEMENT AT CONTINUING IN PRESENT VEIN OF TALKING ABOUT TALKS, BUT NEVER HAVING THEM. HE FELT THAT THIS PUT AN INCREASINGLY UNACCEPTABLE POLITICAL BURDEN ON HIS REPUTATION. IT WAS ALSO MERELY TIME CONSUMING, WITH ONLY FIVE MONTHS LEFT BEFORE SALVADOR'S DENUNCIATION OF PACT OF BOGOTA BECOMES FINAL. HE INDICATED HONDURAS WOULD PROBABLY EVENTUALLY ASK FOR ACTION UNDER THE PACT'S ARBITRATION PROCEDURES. HE ALSO EXPRESSED PESSIMISM ABOUT CONSEQUENCES OF SALVADOR'S AERIAL REARMAMENT. (COMMENT: THE CABINET AS A WHOLE MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT THE AIRCRAFT QUESTION. MINISTERS ALCERRO, ESCOTO AND ACOSTA HAVE ALL MADE GLOOMY COMMENTS TO US ON THIS SUBJECT WITHIN PAST FEW DAYS).

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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